WEST ISLES FEASIBILITY STUDY

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MARINE PARK
IN THE WEST ISLES AREA OF
THE BAY OF FUNDY, NEW BRUNSWICK

TASK REPORT

Parks Canada Parcs Canada

Tourism New Brunswick Tourisme Nouveau-Brunswick

ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

FROM OPEN HOUSES AND PUBLIC MEETING - JUNE 1984

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Parks
Canada

Tourism
New Brunswick

FOREWORD

The West Isles Feasibility Study was initiated by the federal Minister of the Environment responsible for Parks Canada and the New Brunswick Minister of Tourism in November, 1983. The purpose of the study is to assess the feasibility of establishing a national marine park in the West Isles area of the Bay of Fundy.

The West Isles Feasibility Study is being conducted in three phases. Phase I is an assessment of the technical feasibility of establishing a national marine park in the West Isles area, from the perspective of Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick. If Ministers decide to proceed with the study, Phase II would involve extensive public consultation to provide the local public with the opportunity to become directly involved in the process to decide whether or not the West Isles proposal is feasible. The purpose of Phase III would be to analyse the results of the two preceeding phases, and to prepare a final report based on the findings, with recommendations for a future course of action.

In the process of completing Phase I, nine individual studies were conducted to investigate specific aspects of the feasibility assessment, all of which are summarized in the Phase I report. These nine studies include the following:

1. Recommended Resource Management Guidelines
2. Institutional and Administrative Arrangements
3. Optional Visitor Use Concepts
4. Transportation Analysis
5. Tourism Development Plan
6. Socio-Economic Impact Study
7. Historical/Archaeological Concerns and Opportunities
8. Land Ownership Inventory
9. Analysis and Summary of Public Comments

Copies of the above reports are available upon request from the following addresses:

Department of Tourism,
Recreation and Heritage*
P.O. Box 12345
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 5C3
Phone: (506) 453-2624

Parks Canada
10 Wellington Street
Hull, Quebec
K1A 1G1
Phone: (819) 994-2696

* Throughout this report the former title Tourism New Brunswick has been used. The correct title is now the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	i
Background	1
Summary of Public Comments	2
Analysis of Public Comments	5

APPENDICES

A. Newspaper Advertisement in St. Croix Courier

B. Letter to Deer Island Residents

C. Fact Sheets

D. Draft Park Purpose and Objectives Statement

E. Comments Recorded at Open Houses

F. Briefs presented at Open Houses and/or Public Meeting

ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Background

The Pilot Study to develop a concept for a national marine park recommended that a further study be carried out in the West Isles area of New Brunswick to determine the feasibility of establishing a park there. The joint feasibility study (Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick) was announced by the responsible Federal and Provincial Ministers in October 1983. It was intended that the study would be conducted in two phases - the first would determine if it would be technically feasible and the second, should the first be positive, would obtain public input into the decision-making process on possible options for resource protection, visitor use, and management structures. Following analysis of the public comments, it would be determined if establishment of the park would be feasible or not and recommendations would be made accordingly.

The factors that caused the public participation stage of the study to be moved forward before it was determined if establishing the park was technically feasible and the options were ready for discussion were:

1. the pilot study was misunderstood by people in the study area;
2. the purpose of the feasibility study and its phases were misunderstood by them and rumours began to circulate in local communities;
3. the meetings of the teams on both studies with representatives of organizations on Deer Island and the Fundy Weir Fishermen's Association to clarify the relationship of the Pilot Study and the Feasibility Study and to get help in designing the public participation process led to further misunderstanding and rumour in the communities.

Consequently, in June of 1984 open houses were held at Fairhaven on Deer Island, Wilson's Beach on Campobello Island, and at St. George and St. Andrews. A public meeting was held at Lambertville on Deer Island. Slightly over one hundred (100) people attended the two open houses on Deer Island and approximately one hundred and seventy-five

(175) at the public meeting. There were about thirty (30) people at Campobello and St. George and fifteen (15) at St. Andrews. (The count is not exact as all participants did not sign the mailing list.)

The objectives of the open houses were to talk with the local people about the purpose of the feasibility study and the way it was set up; to get or correct information on the marine resources in the study area; and to identify benefits or problems the local people wanted considered during the study. Discussion was focused on draft park purpose and objectives statements and the process of park selection and establishment, and management. Participants were assured that their suggestions and concerns would be considered during the formulation of options for management and use, the assessment of feasibility, and the subsequent preparation of the Phase I recommendations.

Summary of Public Comments

The major issues and concerns have been categorized under the following headings:

A. Park Purpose
B. Park Objectives
    1. Resource Protection/Conservation
    2. Public Understanding, Appreciation and Enjoyment
    3. Regional Integration

A. Park Purpose

There was consensus among the local people that the West Isles area had many special values that warranted conservation. Some felt there were insufficient controls at present to protect the West Isles environment and that a national marine park could provide them. Others questionned whether a national marine park was the most appropriate way to achieve

conservation objectives and whether Parks Canada would be able to manage these resources in a way that would permit the continued viability of the commercial fishery and the maintenance of their lifestyles. While it was recognized that the management of a national marine park would require cooperation among several government agencies and the local public, there was an expressed lack of confidence in the government's ability to work cooperatively or to consider public opinion in its decision-making process. The public were particularly concerned about what role they would play in the park planning and management process.

B. Park Objectives

1. Resource Protection/Conservation

Many members of the public were concerned about the long term prospects for resource conservation in the West Isles, in view of current or proposed commercial developments in the area. Some believed that the establishment of a national marine park could assist in mitigating the negative effects of such development.

The major concerns expressed were the potential impact of a national marine park on the commercial fishery and the management practices which would be put in place to manage the fishery and park visitor use. Specific issues referred to the size of the proposed park, the continuation of existing or possible future commercial fishing practices, traditional domestic resource harvesting, hunting, and potential conflicts between resource protection, commercial fishing and park visitor activity. The potential effect of increased boat traffic and noise on fish movement was an issue of particular importance. Some also expressed the concern that existing problems of disturbance to fishing gear and poaching would increase should a park be established.

Many fishermen stressed the point that their involvement in the park management decision-making process would be necessary if solutions were to be found to these problems. Some felt that such participation

in park management would help local commercial fishermen in protecting their fishing interests. Before a final decision on a national marine park in the West Isles, they sought guarantees that the commercial fishery would continue, that the commercial fishermen would be part of the decision-making process relative to park planning and management, and that they would not have to contend with new and additional regulations on the commercial fishery imposed because of park establishment.

2. Public Understanding, Appreciation and Enjoyment

People residing in the area adjacent to the proposed park were concerned about the number of park visitors that may be attracted, and the potential impact of this visitation on their lifestyle. Over and above the potential impact on the commercial fishery, they also envisioned other potential problems such as increased traffic congestion, particularly on the Deer Island ferry and its access roads, and increased incidences of vandalism, rowdyism, littering and crime. It was also recognized, however, that many of these problems exist with current levels of tourism and that a national marine park would assist in their control. They wondered about the impact on the local infrastructure and services such as water, sewage, health, police and fire protection.

Some also noted that the West Isles is a sensitive environment and were concerned about the potential impact of increased visitation on the area's natural resources. Summer weather conditions, with frequent fog, were viewed as a serious constraint to visitor enjoyment, as were the potentially dangerous conditions in the cold and turbulent waters of the West Isles.

Concern was expressed that the regulations affecting park visitors would also apply to local residents and thereby limit their traditional activities.

3. Regional Integration

Several concerns were raised over the potential impact of the proposed national marine park on, and its relationship with, the surrounding region. It was suggested that land speculation would occur, with the subsequent increase in land prices and taxes. There was a concern that lands would be expropriated for park purposes, and that new land use controls and zoning would be put in place to control local land use patterns.

It was recognized that the proposed national marine park could assist in expanding the diversity of the local economy by providing opportunities for the private sector to become involved in the tourism industry, or by providing direct and indirect employment for local residents. While this prospect was seen by some to have merit, others considered the potentially negative social effects to outweigh the potential economic benefits. They felt that if a park were established, opportunities would have to be provided to enable local people to participate in the decision-making process relative to park planning and management on a regular basis.

Analysis of Public Comments

All comments recorded on the flip charts and briefs presented at the Open Houses or Public Meeting have been analysed. The issues that have been identified can be summarized as follows:

General:

- lack of trust in any level of government
- credibility gap between governments and residents in or near study area
- value of "local" public input
- government priorities
- congruence of value systems of "local" people and governments.

Specific to a National Marine Park:

- need for protection/conservation of marine resources
- uncertainty as to concept of national marine park and lack of options to examine
- fear that establishing of park would disrupt fishery industry and traditional way of life.
- management structure and style for cooperation between government departments and with "local" people - type of management, control, regulations
- expropriation.

The individual issues listed below are to be addressed during the preparation of options for management and use. Phase I of the study will not have answers to the issues related to trust, credibility, value systems and government priorities.

A. Analysis of Public Comments on Park Purpose

1. Good chance to protect resources.
2. Type of management, control, regulation, important.
3. Fear of government style in dealing with resource protection.
4. Doubt that Parks Canada is best vehicle to conserve natural marine resources.
5. Ability of Parks Canada to protect the natural resources in a way that is acceptable to the local people.
6. Capability of Parks Canada to protect the fishery and the environment.
7. Conflict between use for fishery industry and tourism industry.
8. Cooperative management (Parks Canada and local people) (local people involved in decision-making process re management).
9. Fear that "local" public opinion won't count.
10. Government's lack of recognition of "local's" role in resource protection.
11. Congruence of value systems of "local" people and governments.
12. Ability of government departments to work together to achieve purpose of park.
13. Contribution to economy.
14. Misunderstanding of purpose and content of Pilot Study.
15. Lack of options to examine.
16. Outright opposition to park establishment under any circumstances.
17. Lack of trust in government in general.
18. Credibility gap.

B. Analysis of Public Comments on Park Objectives

1. Resource Conservation/Management

1. Long term environmental protection (park or no park).
2. Concurrent peripheral development, e.g. Campobello.
3. Size of study area/park area or areas.
4. Manageable size.
5. Define the resource management practices that will be compatible with the fishery.
6. Doubt that the fishery can be protected and conserved within a park without increasing restrictions (regulations and number of government departments enforcing them).
7. Impact of Parks Canada's jurisdiction on people's fishing operations (including shore based facilities).
8. Flexible (time) and compatible resource management.
9. Traditional harvesting activities.
10. Hunting - primarily seabirds.
11. Relocation of weirs.
12. Resource protection/fishery/visitor activity conflict.
13. Location of visitor activity re weir locations (focal point on mainland).
14. Noise - boat traffic - disruption of fishery.
15. Visitors/fishermen conflicts at wharves.
16. Control of visitor activity to prevent pollution and litter.
17. Fear that existing problem of disturbance and poaching will worsen.
18. Wharf pontoonage.
19. Merits of economic diversification.
20. Supplementing of fishermen's income through tourism seasonal activities.
21. Ability to operate Park and commercial fishery without loss of jobs or income in the fishery.
22. Assurance that people will not lose present jobs or have a decrease in income.
23. Disruption cost to community would outweight benefits.
24. Fragility of natural resources on Deer Island and visitor activity demands will place additional demands on private lands.
25. Impact of park on local services.

26. Violation of private property rights by tourists.
27. Local access to and use of park lands.
28. Application of visitors activity controls to local people.
29. Adjacent land controls.
30. Adequate personnel to manage area.
31. Regulations pertinent to area.
32. Ability to gain respect and enforce regulations.
33. Track record of governments in responding to felt needs of communities (value of local input).
34. International experience.

2. Public Understanding, Appreciation and Enjoyment

35. Concern for long term implications of National Marine Park- ultimate number of visitors.
36. Local concern for lifestyles and natural resources; sensitive to any change.
37. Conflict between use for fishery industry and tourism industry.
38. Capability of Parks Canada to protect the fishery and the environment doubted.
39. Summer weather conditions perceived as a constraint: visitor experience, visitor safety.
40. Concern for lack of community infrastructure to handle existing visitation.
41. Impact of park on local services.
42. Control of visitors activities to prevent pollution and litter.
43. The application of regulations to locals as well as visitors.
44. Application of visitors activity controls to local people.
45. Violation of private property rights by tourists.
46. Identification of mooring areas and access to water.
47. Disruption cost to community would outweigh benefits.
48. Merits of economic diversification.
49. Ability of Campobello Island to accommodate further "urban" development.
50. Concurrent peripheral development, e.g. Campobello
51. Ability to gain respect and enforce regulations.
52. Ability of government departments to work together to achieve purpose of park.

3. Regional Integration

53. Misunderstanding of purpose and content of Pilot Study.
54. Size of study area/park area or areas.
55. Impact on future generation.
56. Fear that controversy will continue.
57. Community disruption.
58. Municipal incorporation, community planning, zoning, height restrictions on buildings.
59. Expropriation.
60. Importance of passing on property to children.
61. Adjacent land controls.
62. Local access to and use of park lands.
63. Foreign ownership.
64. Tourism.
65. Concern for long term implications of National Marine Park- ultimate number of visitors.
66. Violation of private property rights by tourists.
67. Summer weather conditions perceived as a constraint: visitor experience, visitor safety.
68. Impact of park on local services.
69. Ablity of Campobello Island to accommodate further "urban" development
70. Social benefits of park.
71. Socio-economic impact of bridge.
72. Adequacy of the ferry service.
73. Road improvements.
74. Public security (increased policing).
75. Smuggling across border.
76. Increased crime.
77. Long term environmental protection (park or no park).
78. Good opportunity to protect resources.
79. Local concern for lifestyles and natural resources; sensitive to any change.
80. Resource protection/fishery/visitor activity conflict.
81. Impact of Parks Canada's jurisdiction on people's fishing operations (including shore based facilities).

82. Noise - boat traffic - disruption of fishery.

83. Relocation of weirs.

84. Ability of Parks Canada to protect the natural resources in a way that is acceptable to the local people in question.

85. The application of regualtions to locals as well as visitors.

86. Hunting - primarily seabirds.

87. Contribution to economy.

88. Merits of economic diversification.

89. Increase in land taxes.

90. Increased cost of living.

91. Land speculation.

C. Process

1. Method governments will use to assess public opinions.

2. Identification of public - who makes up public?

3. Importance given to public input (weight).

4. Involvement and role of elected representatives.

5. Adequate and appropriate information distribution.

6. Location of open houses and public meetings.

7. Clarification of decision-making process:

   - involvement of public in feasibility study;
   - involvement of public in planning for national marine park;
   - involvement of public in management of national marine park.

Parks Canada / Parcs Canada

New Brunswick Department of Tourism
Ministère du Tourisme du Nouveau-Brunswick

Invite you
To
An Open House and Public Meeting

To discuss your ideas for the joint study to help find out if it is feasible to have a national marine park in the West Isles area.

OPEN HOUSE - DEER ISLAND

Deer Island Development Association Hall, Fairhaven
Thursday, June 14 - between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m.
or
Friday, June 15 - between 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING - DEER ISLAND

Mayfair Hall, Lambertville
Friday, June 15 - 7:00 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE - ST. GEORGE

Department of Natural Resources Building
Saturday, June 16 - between 10 a.m. & 9 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE - CAMPOBELLO

St. Anne's Church Hall, Welshpool
Monday, June 18 - between 10 a.m. & 9 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE - ST. ANDREWS

New Brunswick Community College - Room 203
Tuesday, June 19 - between 10 a.m. & 9 p.m.

APPENDIX B

National Marine Park Feasibility Study - West Isles

June, 1984

Dear Residents of Deer Island:

As you know, Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick have started a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a national marine park in the West Isles area. We would like you to come to the "Open House" at the Deer Island Development Association Hall in Fairhaven to talk to us about this study. Drop in for a few minutes or several hours.

The "Open House" will be held on:

Thursday 14 June 1984 between 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.
Friday, 15 June 1984 between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

We would like to talk with you about the purpose of the study, and the way the study is set up. We will have maps of the area that is being studied on which will be shown information on the marine resources. We would like area residents to check the maps with us and correct misinformation if there is any. We want to discuss with you the benefits and problems of a national marine park within the study area. Your suggestions and concerns will be written down.

At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, 15 June 1984 there will be a public meeting in the Mayfair Hall, Lambertville. The chairperson will be a local resident. The suggested agenda will be:

- presentation by Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick representatives on the purpose of and ideas about national marine parks and a report on the open houses;
- presentation by spokespersons of interested groups expressing their interests and concerns to help the study team to carry out their work;
- questions from the floor.

The kinds of things we learn from you will be taken into consideration when preparing the draft report of the study. No decision has been taken as to whether or not a national marine park will be established within the West Isles study area. After these discussions in June, and other information is gathered, we will carry out an evaluation. In the fall, we will discuss the results of this evaluation with you and departments of federal and provincial governments. The recommendations made in the final study report will be based upon these discussions. It will be a long time before decisions can be taken by the two governments. The present Open Houses and public meeting are only the first of many before final decision is made.

We look forward to talking with you on the 14th and 15th.

Yours sincerely,

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APPENDIX C

FACT SHEET #1

General Information on National Marine Parks

1. There are no national marine parks in Canada although there are provincial marine parks and marine parks in other parts of the world.

2. There is a draft National Marine Parks Policy for Canada. It has been discussed with interested individuals and organizations across the country. All comments have been put together and are being studied. The draft has not been revised yet. It may be some time before the revised document receives final approval.

   People from Deer Island including representatives of the Fundy Weir Fishermen's Association attended workshops on the draft policy. (Copies of the draft policy will be available at the Open Houses and Public Meeting).

3. The primary objective in establishing a national marine park is "to protect and conserve for all time representative marine areas of Canadian significance in a system of marine parks, so to leave them unimpaired for future generations and to encourage public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of Canada's marine heritage."

4. As currently proposed a national marine park would include submerged lands and overlying water mass together with some coastal lands and islands, which would be owned by Canada and protected and conserved under the National Parks Act (1974).

   The administration, management, and control of resources in national marine parks would be under the direction of the Minister responsible for the National Parks Act, with the exception of commercial fisheries, navigation, and shipping which would remain with the federal ministers presently responsible for their regulation according to agreements entered into at the time the national marine park is established.

5. The public will be given opportunities to participate in the establishment of national marine parks and in discussions leading to the agreements for establishment and management.

6. People who live in the area of a national marine park and commercial fishermen who fish in the area will have a continuing opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process on development and management of the park.

Prepared by:
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

FACT SHEET #2

Selecting a National Marine Park

1. For the purpose of having a systematic basis for identifying potential national (land) and national marine parks, Parks Canada divided the country into natural regions.

2. Within the marine natural regions studies are carried out to find marine natural areas of Canadian significance. These areas must show the diversity of oceanographic, biological, geological, historical, and cultural themes of a marine region.

   These marine natural areas of Canadian significance do not take in all of the region, but parts of it that can be said to represent the region.

3. The Bay of Fundy is considered to be a marine region.

4. Studies have been conducted in the Bay of Fundy by or for Parks Canada over a number of years to identify marine natural areas of Canadian significance. Four were identified - around Deer Island, Grand Manan in New Brunswick and Brier Island and Evangeline Beach in Nova Scotia.

5. The four marine areas of Canadian significance were compared and the Deer Island area (West Isles area) was found to have the greatest potential for a national marine park.

6. A study area means the area that is studied and does not show the boundary of a national marine park.

Prepared by:
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

FACT SHEET #3

Background to Present Study

1. During 1975-76, Tourism New Brunswick conducted a study to identify tourism opportunities in the Bay of Fundy area of New Brunswick. The study was known as the Fundy Isles Tourism Study. Numerous public meetings and workshops were held. The idea of a marine park in the general area was recommended at the time.

2. Using the West Isles as a setting a Pilot Study was conducted between 1978 and 1982 by Tourism New Brunswick and Parks Canada to develop a concept of what a national marine park might look like. This idea of a national marine park was taken into consideration when preparing the draft policy.

3. The Pilot Study Summary was released by the federal Minister of the Environment and the provincial Minister of Tourism in November 1983. A press release was issued announcing that the Pilot Study was completed and available to anyone who was interested by writing to the respective departments of government. (Copies were distributed to various organizations on Deer Island such as Local Service District, Chamber of Commerce, Fundy Weir Fishermen's Association.)

4. At the same time the Ministers announced that Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick would conduct a joint study to determine the feasibility of establishing a national marine park in the West Isles area of New Brunswick. (Copies of the Terms of Reference Summary for this study were distributed to various organizations on Deer Island.)

5. The interested public will have appropriate opportunities to participate in the feasibility study.

Prepared by:
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

FACT SHEET #4

Feasibility Study

1. The purpose of the joint study being conducted by Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick is to determine the feasibility of establishing a national marine park in the West Isles area of New Brunswick.

2. The study itself will NOT establish a national marine park. It will recommend that such a park should or should not be established.

3. If the study recommends that a national marine park should be established in the area, it will also present proposals for management of the commercial fishery and activities of visitors.

4. Interested individuals and organizations will have opportunities to discuss all aspects of the study and give their ideas and suggestions to the study team.

5. The study team will meet with the public at different steps in the study to discuss the tasks.

6. These are the tasks in the Study:
   - review study area (copy attached);
   - set up objectives for a potential national marine park and discuss them with the public and other government departments;
   - gather information on:
     transportation
     tourism development
     land tenure;
   - do an archaelogical inventory;
   - prepare visitor use options and discuss with the public;
   - outline what needs to be considered in agreements for the management of the commercial fishery and visitor activities and discuss with the public and other government departments;
   - conduct a socio-economic impact study.

7. At this time the Study Team wants to get the public's opinions on:

   - objectives for a national marine park;
   - what it could look like;
   - what could take place in it;
   - how it could be managed;
   - what regulations would be necessary.

8. Although the announcement was made some time ago the work on the Tasks for the feasibility study has not yet been completed.

9. The feasiblity study will likely take another year to complete.

10. The criteria against which a recommendation will be made to whether it is feasible to establish a national marine park in the West Isles area have not been finalized. Draft criteria will be discussed with the interested public and other government departments before they are finalized.

11. Remember the feasibility study will NOT establish a national marine park. It will only recommend to the respective Ministers if it is or is not feasible.

Prepared by:
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

FACT SHEET #5

Land Requirements

1. No one knows at this time exactly how much land base would be necessary for a national marine park in the West Isles area if one is established there.

2. In any event, Parks Canada will not ask that any land be expropriated. Whatever land is needed, it will be on a willing seller-willing buyer basis.

Prepared by:
Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

FACT SHEET #6

Commercial Fishery

1. Parks Canada is very conscious of the importance of the commercial fishery in the West Isles area.

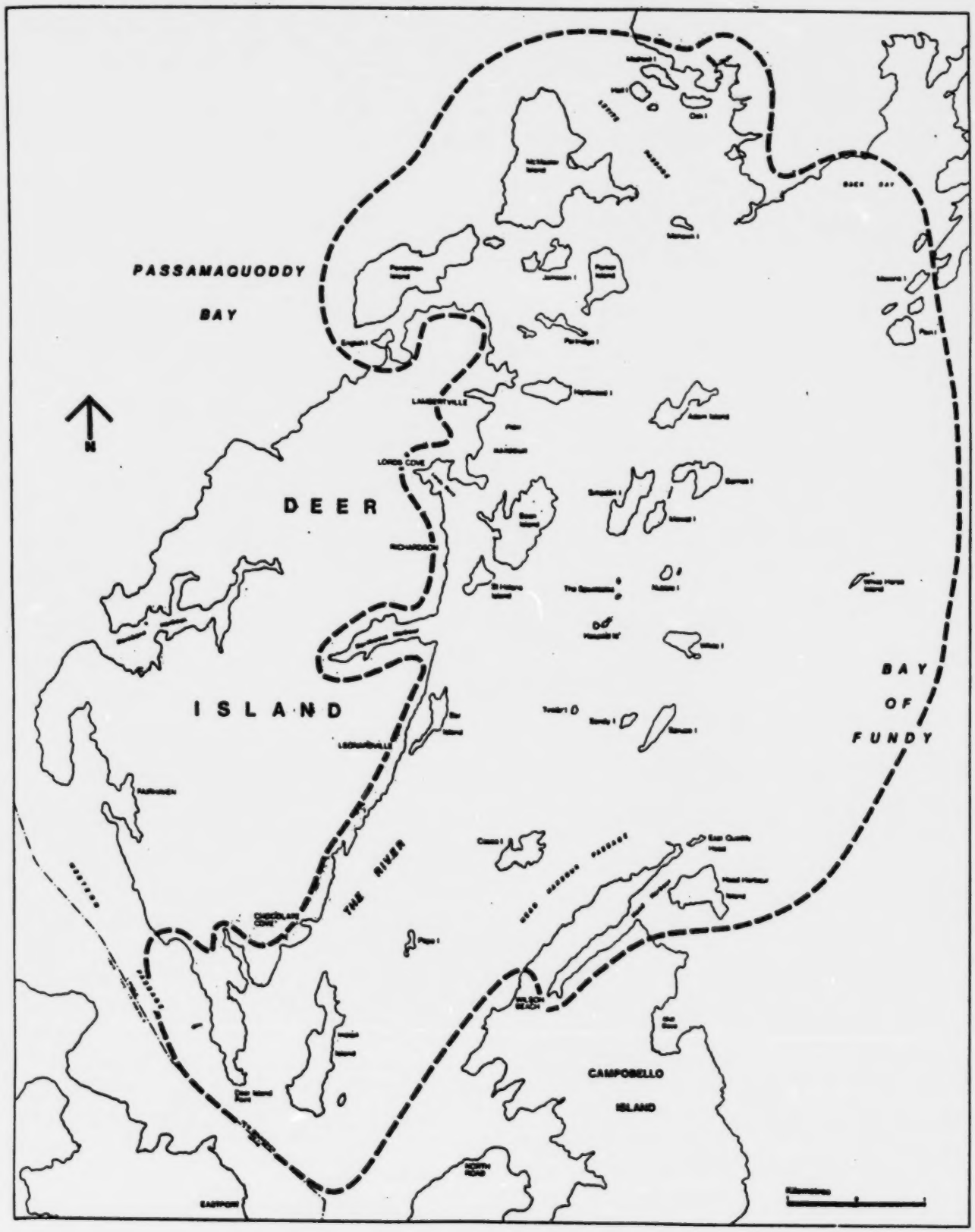
2. The basis on which the Province of New Brunswick is participating in the feasibility study is that the commercial fishery is not disrupted.

3. Initial discussions have been held with representatives of commercial fishermen and also with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. These discusssions will continue. It is hoped that a concensus will be reached among these parties on the management of the commercial fishery.

4. Until later on in this study, specify answers will not be available. The team expects to be in a better position to address specific issues in the fall.

Prepared by:
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick
June 1984

WEST ISLES STUDY AREA - THIS IS NOT A PARK BOUNDARY



APPENDIX D

DRAFT STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

PARK PURPOSE:

- *To protect and conserve marine resources and features that are highly representative of the Bay of Fundy Natural Marine Region, and to encourage public appreciation and enjoyment of the proposed park by present and future generations.*

  This purpose is to be achieved in harmony with communities in the region.

PARK OBJECTIVES:

1. *Protection and Conservation of Natural and Human Heritage Resources*

   - *to protect and conserve the highly diverse marine life in the West Isles, and features such as very high tides, fast currents, extensive vertical mixing of waters, a whirlpool reputed to be the second largest in the world, a variety of coastal features and an interesting and pleasing seascape;*
   - *to protect and conserve human heritage resources and prehistoric and historic sites and features representing early trading, fishing, logging, navigation and shipbuilding activities.*

2. *Appreciation, Understanding and Enjoyment*

   - *to interpret the natural and human history themes of the West Isles area in such a way that the visitor will obtain an appreciation and understanding of the diversity of marine resources and man's relationship with the sea.*

3. *Regional Integration*

   - *to ensure that the provision of facilities and services in the proposed national marine park provides positive economic and social benefits to the surrounding area;*

- *to encourage local communities and the provincial government to maintain social and economic activities, the charm of the villages and the heritage importance of man-made structures associated with the commercial fishery such as lobster pounds, wharves, weirs and lighthouses;*
- *to provide opportunities for the public to become involved in the planning and development of the propcsed national marine park.*

Prepared for Open Houses - June 1984
Parks Canada and Tourism New Brunswick

APPENDIX E

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS

Deer Island

June 14-15, 1984

- *A problem with marine park lands on the mainland or Deer Island is the public differentiating between private and park land; i.e., for walking, clamming, etc.*

- *concern for the marine park has caused difficulties for people who prefer to have an open mind and to explore the possibilities*

- *problem with tourists near Mascarene fishing near the weirs and dropping mackerel lures*

- *in the Channel area, weirs are fished around 2:00 p.m. - fear lack of protection from boat traffic at midday*

- *shut-offs - airplane fish spotters say herring come to shore long before dark - just can't see them to edge of dark*

- *I catch fish in shut-offs an average of 10 nights a year - 2 nights could represent 2/3 of year's income*

- *can't stand someone to bother me or scare fish away those nights*

- *White Island - eagle nest - owns weir on southwest shore - people/tour boats will want to see the nest - will bother our weir*

- *I employ 3-4 people, some for share, some for $100 a day - where is the unemployment because I would hire more but can't find them in the summer time?*

- *scuba divers - will run things - around weirs, scare herring - are down on us (fishermen) - steal lobsters and scallops - cut weir netting - divers always have right of way*

- *if a marine park is approved, it would apparently have a negative affect on the fishing business, also other businesses on the island, such as stores, etc.*

- *I would suggest in this case that if fishermen or others are affected, they should be given a licence to take tourists out on boat trips*

- *many of the tourists now just use Deer Island as a short cut (they get on and off the two ferries to get themselves to another destination)*

- *the one question the tourist asked on the ferry was "what is the shortest route to the other ferry?"*

- *I am very concerned that the commercial fishery continues undisturbed*

- *the fears and the doubts are solidly based*

- *an interpretive (demonstration) weir could provide additional income to weir fishermen*

- *I fear that if a national marine park is established in this area I will lose the things I value*

- *not everyone has the same value system*

- *if the government wants something (e.g., Beans Island) they will take it*

- we love the land that has been in our family for generations

- some fishermen get their weir material on some of the islands

- there are advantages and disadvantages

- I am not for or against a national marine park in this area

- there is a way of life here - people come here to enjoy the peace and quiet - if too many people come the very reason Deer Island is so attractive could be destroyed

- on Deer Island (in the area where commercial fishery is taking place) we are having problems with tourists now they disturb and sometimes take lobsters out of the traps

- in the Channel our best time is 2 p.m., how can you going protect my weir

- I do not agree with the idea of a national marine park in this area; I think it would be too restrictive; I think everything would be too governed - a lot of regulations

- visitors and fishery industry do not go together

- although we want to protect and conserve our fishery, we do not feel the government restrictions can do this, in other words the restrictions could outweigh the benefits

- we would not want any of our lands owned by Canada because we would lose our fishing rights

- *we can only talk on our experience*

- *once the government owns something local protest has little result*

- *government administrators have no knowledge of the area (fishery) and therefore cannot make viable decisions*

- *to some tourists would help their business but there would be too much disruption*

- *the ferry service cannot handle the local traffic now what will it do with more visitors*

- *local produce that is perishible must be transported immediately - cannot wait in a line up*

- *at present it is a problem to have large commercial fishery areas - each geographic area is different and it is necessary to understand the nature of the fishery - it is not possible to have one set of regulations apply - the persons who administer and manage have too large territory*

- *Canadian Armed Forces have exercises in area and it is felt that when they are diving they take lobsters and scallops*

- *what say will local people have in the management of a national marine park?*

- *before I am for or against I want to know what the whole thing is about - will a national marine park help or hinder the people in the area*

- *will it benefit the area - socially and economically*

- *what will it do to the standard of living?*

- *what will it do for the future generation? will they be better off?*

- *the establishment of a national marine park must not hurt the environment*

- *the fishery has its ups and downs, it must be able to continue but there may be merit in diversifying*

- *the study area is such a small area for so much activity*

- *I could see if the eastern area were not made a focal area - it is the eastern area where all the weirs are and needs protection*

- *Deer Island has a fragile environment and I can't see a lot of people being encouraged to come here*

- *the focal point might be on the mainland*

- *the noise factor is key - the fishery can't exist with the noise*

- *we, as fishermen, must have a say in what goes into agreements between governments and then in overseeing the implementation of the agreements - only in this way will we trust that a national marine park can be of benefit providing, of course, that solutions are found to the problems identified*

- *I am concerned that the proposed development on Campobello will cause problems for our fishery - we will not have any control over the new people who will come to live there and know nothing about the fishery - I think that we would have some control over a national marine park and it would afford protection to the fishery*

- *we fear that land taxes will increase if there is a national marine park here and the people on fixed incomes will not be able to afford to live here*

- *there is no way that an island of 8 miles long X 4 miles wide can accommodate a projected influx of tourists of 200,000 as proposed by the Provincial Minister of Tourism*

- *we are afraid that we will not be able to pass on our properties to our children (as happens now in the establishment of new national parks - such as in Newfoundland)*

- *we want to be able to continue cutting for weir material or firewood, etc., and hunting on our lands*

- *the tourists can cause pollution; e.g. throwing bottles into the water*

- *I want the Island the way it is undisturbed (except for better ferry service)*

- *there are many things that we have asked the government to help us with and it has not happened - now we are being asked to accept something we don't want and is being forced on us; e.g. we have asked for a new school - the government says there are 15 steps - the ground has been cleared but yet no school*

- *we have to live here year round not just in the summer*

- *any information should be sent to Deer Island as a household drop, not just to the people who attended the Open House*

- *we think that tourists will not stay around in foggy weather, check on the weather conditions*

- *people around here plan their activities with a tide book or a full moon*

- *we don't want a national marine park because:*

  . *it is not possible to control a large number of tourists so that they will not interfere with the commercial fishery especially the weir fishery also lobster fishery*

  . *there is no guarantee that divers will not rob the traps*

- *we do not trust the "Government" - example there were lots of meetings in the Pt. Lepreau area before the plant went in there - the local people did not think it would benefit them yet the plant is there today. The local people had to sell their land for the value as appraised by the government*

- *it is not just what might happen immediately if a national marine park was established but what might happen "down the road" - what might be done to attract more tourists*

- *I'd like to see the park come <u>BUT</u> come with the <u>people</u> in mind*

- *I would like to see a park established here*

- *will we be able to continue to harvest kelp, dulse and other seaweed for food products*

- *The proposed Marine Park for the West Isles area may prove to be the last chance to provide a viable option to a one industry community with a declining population.*

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS

St. George

June 16, 1984

Concerns of people directly involved in the proposed area of the park:

- *study done in Moncton - was there one? did it ask questions about the proposed park in/around Deer Island?*

- *take a survey in the area that encompasses the park - find out what the people want - possibly a referendum*

- *will land be expropriated?*

- *with a large influx of people (tourists) what about ferry service, hospital-medical, police, sanitation, roads?*

- *quality of life of people who live there - (to preserve is to leave as is)*

- *who will profit in L'Etete from sale of land - is it mostly politicians?*

- *page 7 of "National Marine Parks Policy" - 1.3.7 re expropriation - this statement is confusing; it tells us the government can expropriate: we are very concerned about our own land and homes*

- *when you have future meetings, we would life our Federal representative to attend and local M.L.A.'s and minister*

- *people have no respect for fisheries officers and would have none for park wardens and could therefore not control the situation*

- concerned about the potential for a greater drug trade in the general area

- state INTENTS clearly

- meetings in the future: Deer Island, Back Bay include notifications to all L'Eteters, Greens Point too (RR#4 - St. George)

- posters at least a week in advance of meetings in areas to be affected by Proposal

- after late fall meeting, if majority of people express a negative opinion, how long would we have to continue to live in uncertainty as to the establishment of the Park?

- most people live on the Mascarene because of the quality of life. This would change unacceptably.

- is the park not a fait accompli?

- major points are:

  1) no expropriation of land

  2) no restriction on where we can boat

- individual reports will be public - will comments by department senior staff be made public?

- we think it is a good idea to consider a national marine park for this area - there is no control to preserve the natural life of this area

- now some young people shoot the seabirds in the area looking off across the Bay at Mascabin Point

- *it is a wonderful opportunity to protect a beautiful part of Canada for all to enjoy now and for future generations*

- *the visitors are coming now and there are no facilities nor controls, therefore, the visitors are causing problem - but a park would provide these*

- *"freedom is a road to New Brunswick"*

- *what will happen when the Campobello development materializes?*

- *even if a park is not established, there will have to be some form of control - zoning to preserve what is important now*

- *I have a dinghy; could I go out when ever I want if area is a park? (I live within the study area)*

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS

Welshpool/Campobello Island

June 18, 1984

- *will fishermen continue to be able to relocate their weirs?*

- *will there be more regulations and controls on the fishermen - is it just for the tourist*

- *there is very little room on Campobello now with two parks*

- *the bridge has brought changes*

- *I would prefer to see the Island preserved Canadian than sold off for profit to others*

- *fishermen should have the same rights they have now*

- *the tourists are coming anyway*

- *what kind of land use controls would be in effect near the park - would I be able to build a wharf out from my property?*

- *who needs a marine park? Not us.*

- *if the park is established, there must be some form of shared management*

- *there should be local contribution to the planning stage and then the implementation*

- *suggest local committee to work with planners (study team)*

- *should be local committee to look after the interests of the local area*

- *would need to do something about the pollution at St. George*

- *let life go on - only do the kinds of things that protect and let people enjoy*

- *there are more things and more to Campobello than Roosvelt International Park*

- *you must keep the people involved - meet with us - share information all along*

- *Canada is not built around tourism*

- *when you interfere with one group of people in one area it affects all of Canada*

- *I'm in favour of a study*

- *maybe a national marine park is good*

- *perhaps you should think of several small parks*

- *Parks Canada is making a mistake looking at such a large area*

- *although fishing has its ups and downs - the good years conpensate for the bad*

- *should study the Japanese way of handling marine parks*

- *advertise meetings better*

- *people must work together*

- *control park from local area*

- *at what point do tourism and development have a diminishing effect on preservation of habitat within the park area as well as outside it*

- *How will the Wade "development" interface with marine protection? How can you preserve natural resources at the same time you are increasing consumption of resources, increasing water use, increasing sewage, etc., etc.?*

- *New Brunswick Tourism says Campobello cannot support urban development. There is a dichotomy here.*

- *these men tell us public opinion is valid in their report - if so our worries are over - there will be no "park"!*

- *this plan has been under study since 1978 - how come the people of Campobello are only hearing about it in 1984?*

- *Campobello doesn't need a Marine Park!*

- *keep fishermen informed of matters pertaining to them re Federal and Provincial Department*

- *If our whole way of life is to be changed, we don't need it! Government doesn't always know what is best for us!*

- *a marine park planned and developed in cooperation with the people of the area would enrich the lives of all both culturally and financially - this area needs a "shot in the arm" - any parks and historic sites of Parks Canada that I have visited have been definite assets to the surrounding communities*

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS

St. Andrews

June 19, 1984

- *problem at wharves - we do not have enough pontoonage at most of the wharves now - is this being considered?*

- *can't see how the national marine park and a commercial fishery can exist together - if you have a park you have to have regulations and this can interfere with the local people who have lived there (in the area) for years*

- *it is difficult for us as taxpayers to understand why there is money available for a national marine park in any area that is productive and free of pollution now and there is no funding to clear up places like L'Etang*

- *if it wasn't for the people and the fisheries, I'd say you picked an ideal spot for a national marine park*

- *you should address the councils in the general area so that there is an understanding of the purpose of the study - also the Chambre of Commerce*

- *a national marine park has the potential of enhancing the entire area*

- *should emphasize protection/conservation aspect of national marine park*

APPENDIX F

Submission to Parks Canada

National Marine Park Feasibility Study - West Isles

My name is Mary Peck, my home is on Deer Island and I have worked on both national and provincial parks. I believe Deer Island and the offshore area would be an unsuitable choice as the pilot project for national marine parks in Canada.

First, Deer Island's economy depends on one long standing and successful industry, which would inevitably be affected by the nature of such a park.

Second, the study area is much too small to support such a project. Parks Canada has shown us the Barrier Reef Marine Park in Australia - a huge area compared to this one. Parks Canada wants visitors to the proposed park to experience the life style possessed by the people of Deer Island but we have a way of life that cannot be shared by hundreds of thousands. People come here to enjoy the peace and quiet, which will vanish if a park is established.

Such a park would present many problems for both inhabitants and visitors. The systems are simply not good enough and some cannot be improved:

1. Land purchase is complex and difficult in this area. The land titles are confused and Charlotte County has the highest rate of foreign ownership in New Brunswick.

2. Efficient ferry service between the mainland, Deer and Compobello Islands would be very expensive and judging from present conditions, impossible to establish and maintain for such heavy traffic. High tides and storms add to the difficulties; charter boats and scuba diving, "a major activity in the park complex" (4.81) would increase the complexity of transport to and around the area.

3. The water is too cold for swimming and the fresh water supply is often low in summer.

4. Medical service is barely adequate and sewage disposal would present problems.

5. Island communities are not large enough to set up and maintain sufficient stores and accommodation, some would benefit little from such establishments. It is impossible to find a police officer who wants to live on the island; this would also apply to developers of commercial establishment.

6. The size of the island would drastically limit the parkland available and the visitors would find it difficult to respect private property.

A site involving a larger land area and offshore waters would prevent many of the above problems. According to Parks Canada, the park centre would be more complex than the traditional visitor service or interpretation centre and it would be "the hub of all activity". (4.3.1) A large area is certainly more viable when the attendance figures at various national parks are examined.

Pacific Rim National Park on the isolate far side of Vancouver Island is the one most similar to the proposed for our area. Last month in Ottawa, Mr. John Carruthers Chief, National Parks System Planning told me that over 500,000 people visited Pacific Rim National Park last year. Fundy Park had over 200,000 during the same period. Can you imagine such numbers on Deer Island?

Parks Canada has only a draft policy for marine parks and no experience in creating them. We all learn from our mistakes but who wants to be a guinea pig? Parks Canada should be where the people want a park, if no area wants it then the federal government had better reconsider their aims.

Parks Canada states that the park's purpose is to be achieved "in harmony with communities in the area". Because this area is an unsuitable site, consideration of such a park has brought only controversy to the area, as has occured in the past in other parts of the province. We need only

to look at the present impasse between government departments concerning a weir off Chocolate Cove Deer Island to envisage what would occur on a much larger scale if this proposed park came into being.

APPENDIX F

FUNDY WEIR FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

WHY WE OBJECT TO THE MARINE PARK -

1) The Draft National Marine Park Policy is quite explicit in saying that certain areas will be zoned and in some of these zones, no commercial fishing will be allowed, in others, commercial activities will be restricted.

2) The Park will increase boat traffic and scuba divers, both of these can be very harmful to the weir fishery. The weir fishery depends upon sardines (juvenile herring) coming ashore at night. Any disturbances either noise, light, etc., can affect these sardine movements, which in turn can greatly affect the amount of fish caught. There are approximately 65 weirs in the study area and indeed is the centre of the weir fishery and the sardine Industry. The reasons why this area has been chosen for a Marine Park location are the same reasons why there is a viable commercial fishery.

3) Parks Canada's history has been to protect the eco system not the people. We feel that this will happen here as well and if a Marine Park is established, they will eventually drive us out.

4) We have as individuals, invested of ourselves as well as financially to develop our fishery. We have calculated that on the average, we have invested $150,000 in boats, gear, weirs, etc. The average fishing income as per the Kirby Report in the area is approximately $25,000.

5) Connors Bros., Limited, has stated that over the last five years, they have bought on the average, 5500MT of sardines from this area worth $1 million and the wages to pack these into sardines has been another $3 million. This does not include items such as the cost of the cans produced in Ontario, the containers produced from our forests and indeed those involved in shipping.

6) The Island communities have become use to the pace of life suited to such areas, the luxury of leaving ones doors unlocked. The establishment of a Marine Park with its influx of tourists will drastically change the way of life presently on the Island.

7) We feel our Industry here has been a viable one for over 100 years and that through proper management of our resources, can continue to be viable for another 100 years.

8) We feel that the establishment of a Marine Park will have a detremental effect on the area and will greatly disrupt the fishery and the Canadian Sardine Industry.

Brief Presented at Open House - Deer Island

APPENDIX F

Fisherman - tourists on Mascareno - drops, fish hooks
Channel - weirs fish all hours - no protection during the day

shut off - airplane fish spotters say herring come to shore long before dark - just can't see them to edge of dark - catch fish in shut-off average 10 nights a year - can't stand someone to bother me or scare fish away those nights as I made ½ to 2/3 of year's work in those nights - we go middle of day.

White Island - eagle nest - people will want to see them; it will bother our weir.

Employ 3-4 people, some for share, some for $100 a day - where is unemployment because I would hire more but can't find them in summer time.

100 hogsheads employment - will employ 100 people for 2½ days
Scuba divers - will run things - around weir, scare herring - down on us - lobsters - scallops - cut weirs clear - divers always have right of way.
curfew - affect tourist snub me
compromise Indians

Christian (church) Fundamentalist - park's tourist will bring liquor licences - don't need them
more parties and more problems, mean stores, cafe food outlets open on Sunday.

Land owner - higher taxes which can't afford
- land will no longer be free for all

to me - zoning laws - Dipper Harbour - no more present wharves

own Parkers Island - prime land for you but to me just woodland for material to build weir and cut fire wood for own use - Park will force taxes much higher expropriate

tourists mean garbage - more services - more taxes

satisfied - in way of life, don't need government assistance

will never understand how fishermen - don't figure hour - no man ever moved here and became successful fisherman - born with the feel - how can you understand it in a few hours here?

Dale Mitchell
Lambertville
Deer Island, N.B.
June 14, 1984

APPENDIX F

TO: Parks Canada

FROM: Michael Strong L'Etete, N.B.

P.O. Box 604
St. Andrews, N.B.
E0G 2X0

RE: Proposed National Marine Park

Dear Sir or Madam:

There appears to be an inconsistency in the Parks Canada mandate of establishing a marine park. How is it possible to preserve the cultural qualities of this region and at the same time avoid the impact on our way of life by myriads of tourists? The very character of the study area that makes it attractive was only arrived at as a result of generations of people building a way of life from the fishery. An influx of tourism and the inevitable development of support industry will no doubt destroy our way of life, including the beautiful atmosphere of tranquility that surrounds it. It is evident you would have us become fish in an aquarium, or have us leave to provide our home as a playground for tourists.

The following are some questions that have not been satisfactorily answered at your open house:

1) At what stage of planning would a park be invoked? Will the park be formulated down to very fine details first, and then be legislated, or will a go-ahead be given at a rough conceptual stage, leaving many years of uncertainty for local residents as the park evolves, changing its mandates, operations, regulations and boundaries?

2) The decision making process to be used by Parks Canada is <u>frightfully</u> unclear. The pilot study recommends that the level of interest of local residents be clearly addressed. What does this mean? Can this be

.../2

construed as being a true factor in the final decision to go ahead with a park? If your answer is yes, then a public referendum on this issue should also be acceptable (at the point you feel local residents are sufficiently "educated" as to what a marine park will be!) If your answer is no, I feel we should be immediately informed if we are to bide by an absolute ministerial decision. Also, both the likelihood and the implications of a "yes" ministerial decision should be made clear that: the needs of the local residents are truly secondary to the needs of the outsiders visiting the park, and those that will benefit from spin-off businesses outside the park boundaries.

The only just procedure in my eyes in invoking a park would be to begin with an <u>extremely</u> accurate proposal including a) exact and permanent boundaries b) a complete and final plan of land acquisition c) a complete and final plan of regulations and restrictions of land and water use within the park. The procedure could then be completed by a simple referendum vote on the proposal by the residents within the proposed park boundaries. An emphatic NO! from a L'Etete resident.

Michael B. Strong

June 16, 1984

APPENDIX F

As a land owner within the described "study area", I submit the following concerns and remarks. These are not in order of importance, but merely point out items which were not discussed at yesterday's open meeting:

1. *If no land expropriation is being considered, why are islands such as Barnes, Simpsons, etc., labelled as campsites and Bean Island labelled as headquarters (Pilot Study, Fig. 5). If Mathew Island is being depicted as an intertidal exploration zone and clam digging area (closed for many years!) is it to be accessed by water, or by privately owned land?*

2. *In what locations are visiting boats to be moored and where are tourists to be loaded onto charter boats? Good locations are presently scarce and access is usually granted by land owners to their neighbours. I doubt this offer will be extended to strangers. Are strategic shore areas to be "bought" for such purposes?*

3. *"Conscientious" scuba divers presently respect weirs, lobster traps, regulations involving scallop diving, and the beauty of certain sites. By the misconduct of some divers, however, the relationship with fishermen is, at best, passable. Regulations are required regardless of the future of the marine park - specifically the setting of limits on the number of scallop licences issued per year. However, are all privileges now enjoyed to be suspended, and are local divers to conform to zone and time guidelines set by the park? (p. 32)*

4. *At present, a good relationship is kept between boaters and fishermen, maintained by careful navigation through lobster traps and maintaining a distance from weirs. It is easy to envisage visiting boaters and lobster traps coming together in one tangled propeller mess, resulting in stranded boaters, and worse - lost traps.*

5. *Finally, are all questions to be answered in detail by the fall meeting, and is it to be put to a vote at that time?*

.../2

I have purposefully kept my comments on issues which are secondary in importance (other than land expropriation) to the vital issues concerning fishery and social impacts. These were well described yesterday and should have been sufficiently important as to arrest the progress of establishing a marine park.

At present my decision on the marine park can only be based on information provided by the Pilot Study (is it not its purpose?), news media and the open meeting. I require no further information. An area cannot be protected for future generations by destroying the very people that have kept it that way.

My decision is NO to a Marine Park, and I am joined by 90% of Deer Island open house attendants (your stats June 15 open meeting).

Mariá-Inés Buzeta
L'Etete resident
June 16, 1984

APPENDIX F

DEER ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A FEW COMMENTS

FOR THE

MARINE PARK STUDY TEAM

AND THE

CITIZENS OF DEER ISLAND

June 15, 1984

The by-laws of the Deer Island Chamber of Commerce, incorporated in 1979, state that:

> *the objectives of the Deer Island Chamber of Commerce shall be to promote and improve trade and commerce and the economic, civic, and social welfare of the district (Article 1, Section ii).*

Thus, the Chamber of Commerce has gone on public record as being opposed to any development which would curtail the century-old commercial fishery in this geographic area. The Chamber is interested, however, in seeing the feasibility study for the proposed federal marine park for the area go forward as it will allow for examination of many issues which touch our lives.

Our island has always been the centre of our universe, and we've always considered ourselves safe from intrusion. But this is 1984, and the twentieth century is threatening to swallow us up. Growth of cities in New Brunswick and the North Eastern United States, increase leisure time, regular vacations for all workers, a highly mobile society, and the need of city-dwellers for the those things we've considered our God-given right - peace and quiet in God's natural world have got us on the defensive. We're right in the centre of this outward movement of urban areas.

Development is the big issue here and development is going on, like it or not. Look at the change in the city of Eastport - the development along the St. Stephen waterfront, new planning and development for the Calais waterfront, the town of St. Andrews, Ministers Island and the entire St. Andrews peninsula; all municipal development. The St. Croix River has been designated an historic waterway and St. Croix Island is being developed by the United States Government. Campobello Island is being developed by a private company - the part that isn't already part of the Park - and then there's Pope's Folly - or will it be Redmonds Folly - or Wendall Brown's Folly. [2]

What protection do we have from outside forces - government big business, or well-heeled individuals after our land and water resources - would be politicians looking for a cause after our minds, and local press looking for a story to sensationalize after our minds and our dollars.

Let's remember we're all islanders - we've got the same problems making a living looking for security - keeping food on the table - clothes on our backs - a roof over our heads - even the tax man. And because we're islanders we've got to remember our unique situation of being so close to the mainland - and so far from Fredericton and Ottawa, the home of government and _____ the home of Westons. Our island has been living in a state of re-action for a long, long time. Today it's the Department of Tourism and Parks Canada with a duty for us to take part in. We're participating in the study. That's new! For a lot of yesterdays, and maybe even some tomorrows, it's been the Department of Education and School Board out to save money by busing our high school students to Saint George, by putting off construction of an elementary school, and its been the Transportation Department cutting back on ferry schedules and service, chipsealing our roads, no salt in winter to break up the ice. We're always reacting as individuals and groups - talking about it in the stores, on the wharfs, in the waiting room of the clinic, but rarely united maybe because we don't have our own municipal head of government to speak for us.

As a community-minded group, we've tried to look at several issues that affect us - we believe our questions are fairly representative of island citizens concerns. If this proposed park is established in our area what impact will it have on our lives - and if it isn't - what will that mean, then? Because we can't shut out the outside world, or the developments all around us.

I. Economy and Job-Opportunity

1. What evidence exists to show that the proposed park would not interfere with the commercial fishery? What guarantees are there that jobs and incomes will not be lost?

2. What evidence exists to show that the proposed park would interfere with or curtail any area of the commercial fishery?

3. How are marine parks - fisheries managed in other regions of the world?

4. How many permanent and part-time jobs would be created by the proposed park? In both government and private sectors?What would be the criteria for selecting and placing job applicants?

On the other hand if the park isn't established:

5. Our sole large employer the sardine plant is fairly old. What if the building were severely damaged by storm, fire or a freak incident - would it be replaced? or would the workers be bused to Back Bay or Black's Harbour?

And if the fish stocks continue to dwindle - whether as the result of the nuclear power plant at Point Lepreau or the polluted L'etang estuary - or the global greenhouse effect or overfishing of the off-shore waters by foreign fleets and our plant is open for shorter periods each year - what other employment opportunity exists?

II. Marine Traffic

1. How much protection does the commercial fishery currently have from recreational vessels in Passamaquoddy Bay?

2. What protection would be available if the proposed park were established? Who will have the say as to where people enter the area by boat where they travel - when and how - who will police the region?

3. What protection will be available without the proposed park, in the light of the previously mentioned developments and all designed to increase tourism in the region?

III. Transportation/Highways

1. What kind of improvements in the ferry boat system can we expect if the proposed park is established?

2. What kind of improvement can be expected if the park isn't established?
1976 - Fundy Isles Study - recommendation for ferry boat service.
1983 - Asst. Deputy Minister's comment - tieing up ferry boat in Letete.
1984 - spring cutback in schedule.

What kinds of improvements in Island roads can be expected, if the proposed park is established? old roads re-opened? existing ones widened? new roads built around the villages? parking areas outside of the villages? pavement rather than chipseal on roads? (salt - not sand in winter).

IV. Land Acquisition and USe

1. What guarantees will island citizens have of access to any land acquired by the government if the Park is established?

Of all counties in N.B. in 1974, Charlotte County had more acreage in the hands of foreign and absented owners 9.8% of properties foreign-owned in 1974 as opposed to only 1.89% in Saint John.

No Trespassing sign not welcome.

V. Policing

1. Many island citizens express the concern of fear of strangers in the community - a lack of security. What degree of police protection can we expect if the park is established?

2. On the other hand - where is our police protection right now?
St. George detachment is being cut back, we're in their jurisdiction.
- reckless drivers
- all night parties
- vandalism - theft - poaching

VI. Medical

1. *If Park established how will our medical services be up-graded to handle the numbers of emergency cases, staff increases? A doctor here longer? If not - what cutbacks?*

VII. Commercial Development/Accommodation

1. *If Park were established will there be zoning imposed on businesses so that residential areas will be quiet? (We are not zoned currently). What type of accommodation is envisaged - chalets as at Fundy Park and campgrounds and trailer parks -- will there be restrictions as to height of buildings?*

   Will proposed development fit our area and accommodate our lifestyle?

These are some of our concerns - the team's not expected to answer them tonight, but if the government is serious about such a development then we expect these issues to receive consideration and input from the citizens of Deer Island during the planning stage.

If the park is not implemented, then we on Deer Island still have to deal with the increasing developments around us.